



DISASTER NEWS

Loans for Businesses of All Sizes

SBA Disaster Assistance – Field Operations Center- East – 101 Marietta Street, NW, Suite 700, Atlanta, GA 30303

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SBA Economic Injury Disaster Loans Available to Private Non-Profit Organizations in Florida; Adds 10 Counties

ATLANTA – The U.S. Small Business Administration announces that certain Private Non-Profit Organizations (PNPs) that do not provide critical services of a governmental nature may be eligible to apply for low interest rate disaster loans. These loans are available as a result of the Presidential Disaster Declaration for Public Assistance resulting from damages caused by Tropical Storm Fay that occurred on August 18, 2008 and continuing. SBA also announces that 10 counties have been added to the declaration.

PNPs located in Alachua, Baker, Bradford, Brevard, Calhoun, **Clay**, Collier, Dixie, Duval, **Flagler**, Gadsden, Glades, **Gulf**, Hamilton, Hardee, Hendry, **Highlands**, Jefferson, Lake, Leon, Liberty, Marion, **Martin**, Monroe, **Nassau**, **Palm Beach**, Okeechobee, Osceola, Putnam, Saint Lucie, Saint Johns, Seminole, **Suwannee**, **Taylor**, Union, **Volusia** and Wakulla counties are eligible for both Physical and Economic Injury Disaster Loans from the SBA. PNPs in the adjacent counties of Bay, Broward, Charlotte, Citrus, Columbia, De Soto, Franklin, Gilchrist, Hillsborough, Indiana River, Jackson, Lafayette, Lee, Levy, Madison, Manatee, Miami-Dade, Orange, Polk, and Sumter in Florida and Brooks, **Camden**, Charlton, Clinch, Decatur, Echols, Grady, Lowndes, Seminole, Thomas and Ware counties in Georgia are eligible to apply only for SBA Economic Injury Disaster Loans.

Examples of eligible non-critical PNP organizations include, but are not limited to, food kitchens, homeless shelters, museums, libraries, community centers, schools and colleges.

For PNP organizations of all sizes, the SBA offers Economic Injury Disaster Loans up to \$2 million to help meet working capital needs, such as ongoing operating expenses. Economic Injury Disaster Loan assistance is available regardless of whether the private non-profit suffered any physical property damage.

These loans are available at the 4 percent interest rate with loan terms up to 30 years. Loan amounts and terms are set by the SBA and are based upon each applicant's financial condition.

“PNP organizations are urged to contact their County Emergency Managers to obtain information about local briefings. At the meeting, PNP representatives will provide information about their organization”, said Frank Skaggs, Director of SBA Field Operations Center East.

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This information will be used to submit a “Request for Public Assistance” which FEMA uses to determine if the PNP provides an essential governmental service and meets the definition of a “critical facility”. Based upon that conclusion, FEMA will either refer the PNP to SBA for disaster loan assistance or possibly provide a “Public Assistance” reimbursement grant for eligible costs.

Disaster loan information and application forms may be obtained by calling the SBA’s Disaster Assistance Customer Service Center at 1-800-659-2955 (for the hearing-impaired 1-800-877-8339), Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m., and Saturday 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. EDT or by emailing our customer service center at disastercustomerservice@sba.gov or writing to U.S. Small Business Administration, Disaster Assistance Customer Service Center, 130 South Elmwood Avenue, Buffalo, NY 14202-2463.

Victims may also apply for disaster loans from SBA’s secure website at <https://disasterloan.sba.gov/ela/>.

The filing deadline to return applications for physical property damage is **October 23, 2008**. The deadline to return economic injury applications is **May 25, 2009**.

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For more information about the SBA’s Disaster Loan Programs, visit our website at www.sba.gov/services/disasterassistance